U.S. Curbs Lard Export To Cuba

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The Commerce Department yesterday put lard on the list of commodities that must receive a Government export license before they can be shipped to Cuba.

U.S. companies have been negotiating on the sale of $2 million worth of lard to the Cuban government. Until yesterday, lard was one of a long list of items that could be sold to Cuba under a general merchandise license. This type of license does not require an application to the Commerce Department.

Some Cubans use lard as a spread in the same way margarine or butter is used in this country. Lard and many other food items are in short supply there.

Although there is no U.S. regulation against selling food or medicine to Cuba, such trade has been very limited over the past year or two.